

199—20.19 (476,478) Notification of outages.

20.19(1) Notification. The notification requirements in subrules 20.19(1) and 20.19(2) are for the timely collection of electric outage information that may be useful to emergency management agencies in providing for the welfare of individual Iowa citizens. Each electric utility shall notify the board when it is projected that an outage may result in a loss of service for more than six hours and the outage meets one of the following criteria:

a. For all utilities, loss of service for more than six hours to substantially all of a municipality, including the surrounding area served by the same utility. A utility may use loss of service to 75 percent or more of customers within a municipality, including the surrounding area served by the utility, to meet this criterion;

b. For utilities with 50,000 or more customers, loss of service for more than six hours to 20 percent of the customers in a utility's established zone or loss of service to more than 5,000 customers in a metropolitan area, whichever is less;

c. For utilities with more than 4,000 customers and fewer than 50,000 customers, loss of service for more than six hours to 25 percent or more of the utility's customers;

d. A major event as defined in subrule 20.18(4); or

e. Any other outage considered significant by the electric utility. This includes loss of service for more than six hours to significant public health and safety facilities known to the utility at the time of the notification, even when the outage does not meet the criteria in paragraphs 20.19(1) "a" through "d."

20.19(2) Information required.

a. Notification shall be provided regarding outages that meet the requirements of subrule 20.19(1) by notifying the board duty officer by e-mail at dutyofficer@iub.iowa.gov or by telephone at (515)745-2332. Notification shall be made at the earliest possible time after it is determined the event may be reportable and should include the following information, as available:

(1) The general nature or cause of the outage;

(2) The area affected;

(3) The approximate number of customers that have experienced a loss of electric service as a result of the outage;

(4) The time when service is estimated to be restored; and

(5) The name of the utility, the name and telephone number of the person making the report, and the name and telephone number of a contact person knowledgeable about the outage.

The notice should be supplemented as more complete or accurate information is available.

b. The utility shall provide to the board updates of the estimated time when service will be restored to all customers able to receive service or of significant changed circumstances, unless service is restored within one hour of the time initially estimated.